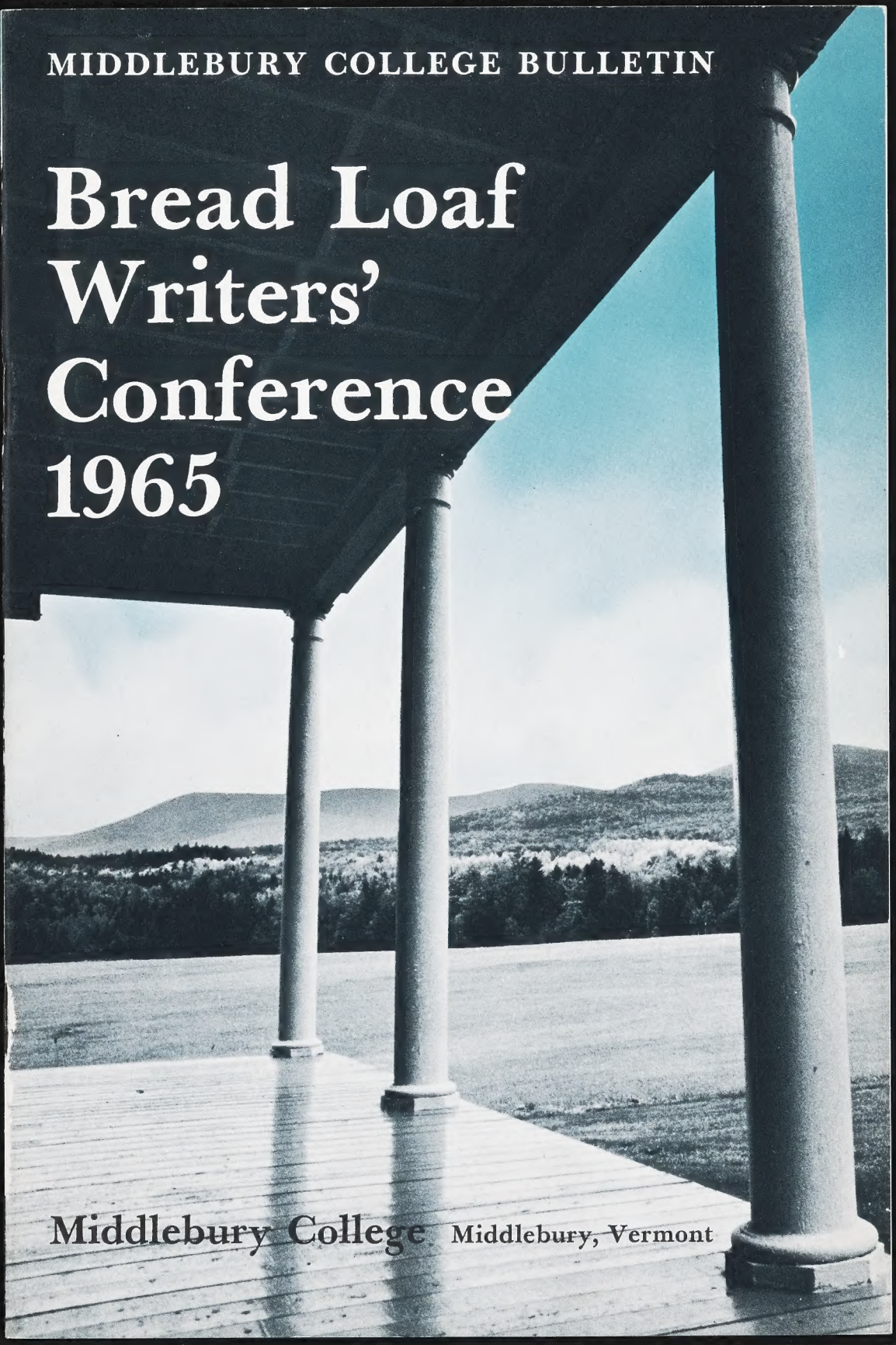
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference 1965



Middlebury College Middlebury, Vermont

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MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Writers' Conference *at* Bread Loaf

August 18—September 1, 1965

FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

Why do they come to Bread Loaf?

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference has been in continuous operation for thirty-nine years and by now thousands of literate people have attended the various sessions. In New York I am often asked why they come, and I have long since found that there is no answer—not in New York. I shall myself be returning for the twentieth year, and I never know entirely why I return until I have returned. I am tempted, at the risk of seeming silly, to say there is a spell about the mountain. The fact is that it does grab onto one, as, for example, a cruise does. For Bread Loaf is in a sense a landlocked cruise: there will be over two hundred people on the mountain during the Conference session, all of them will be seeing one another regularly, all of them are interested in writing and in the talk about writing, and their interest will not be diluted by the intrusion of strangers from the world. For all of these reasons—and to them one must certainly add the Bread Loaf scenery—the conference members soon develop a commonality. Everyone is interested in the talk. Every meeting picks it up where the last meeting left off. And everyone has been attending the same lectures by the staff members. So everyone is full of the same topics of discussion. The special genius of Bread Loaf is in its power to receive two hundred people, mostly as strangers, on Wednesday, and to turn them into a group by Thursday.

Every writer has at some time been a member of a group. Nothing in a writer's development can take the place of meeting with fellow

writers to agree and disagree, to hammer and shape ideas against ideas. The developed writer may later become a hermit. But he must always have found his group first. At Bread Loaf the group discussion is only led by the staff members. The real meeting continues from there into endless talky sessions wherever two conference members meet—on the grounds, on a mountain hike, in the Inn, at table, in the Lounge, or around the fireplaces far into the night.

The staff consists of the best and most articulate writers that can be gathered. Through the first week, for six hours a day, it labors to set forth the principles of writing, each man reporting what he has learned about his own form. The program continues in the same way into the second week with a difference: the staff members have also been reading manuscripts submitted by the Contributors and their daily sessions then become workshops based on specific critiques of those manuscripts.

The answer to why they come to Bread Loaf is basically in the quality of the talk. It is the sort of talk no writer—hopeful, hopeless, or just begun—can afford to be without. Yearly, too, many teachers of English attend the conference. I think what they get from it is the experience of hearing writing discussed not from the academic outside but by writers themselves, from inside the writing. Teachers in fact often turn out to be our most indefatigable lecture-goers. I have known some to attend every lecture in the session, filling a dozen notebooks out of which to draw materials for the next year's courses in literature and writing.

Let me add that Bread Loaf makes no claim to placing manuscripts for publication. But in my experience I have seldom known a good publishable piece of writing to appear at Bread Loaf and the writer to leave without having established contact with an interested publisher, editor, or agent. For publishers, editors, and agents do regularly visit Bread Loaf in the hope of finding good manuscripts. The decision, however, has to be their own. The staff members can recommend manuscripts to those visitors, and they are always glad to, but one must not think of Bread Loaf as a talent-hunt.

Come rather for a glad meeting of minds, and you will be glad you came.

John Ciardi

Director

The Staff

FICTION NON-FICTION POETRY JUVENILE WRITING



Eunice Blake, editor, is the former Vice President and Editor of Children's Books at J. B. Lippincott Company, and also has been an editor at Thomas Nelson and Sons, the Macmillan Company, and Oxford University Press. Under the auspices of the State Department Miss Blake has lectured and conducted workshops in India, Pakistan, Israel, the Philippines, and Nigeria on the publishing and writing of children's books. She has been in charge of the Juvenile Literature program at Bread Loaf since it was established in 1957.



Brock Brower, nonfiction writer, is a contributor to many magazines, including *Holiday*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Vogue*, and *Esquire*. He has also written short stories, a verse play, and dramatic scripts. At present he is completing a novel and a book about the loyalty question.



Richard Ellmann, critic and nonfiction writer, is Professor of English at Northwestern University. A Fellow of the School of Letters at Indiana University, he has twice been a Guggenheim Fellow, has also been awarded the Rockefeller Fellowship in Humanities, and the *Kenyon Review* Fellowship in Criticism. Mr. Ellmann is the author of *Yeats: The Man and the Masks*, *The Identity of Yeats*, and *James Joyce*, which won the National Book Award in 1960. He is editor of many books, most recently (with Charles Feidelson, Jr.) *The Modern Tradition.*



Seymour Epstein, novelist and short story writer, is the author of *Pillar of Salt*, *The Successor*, and *Leah*, which was awarded the Edward Lewis Wallant Annual Book Award. Mr. Epstein has published short stories in *Esquire*, *Redbook*, and *The Antioch Review*, and he has been a contributor to *Short Story I*. He teaches creative writing at the New School for Social Research.



Walter Goodman, nonfiction writer and journalist, is the author of *The Clowns of Commerce*, *All Honorable Men*, and a section of *Smoking and the Public Interest*. He has written for many magazines, among them *Commentary*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *The Nation*, *American Scholar*, and the *New York Times Magazine*. He is a staff writer for *New Republic*, a senior editor for *Redbook*, and contributing editor to *Playboy*.



Nancy Hale, short story writer and novelist, is the author of fourteen books, which include *The Prodigal Woman*, *The Empress's Ring*, *Heaven and Hardpan Farm*, *Dear Beast*, and *Black Summer*. *A New England Girlhood* is a group of *New Yorker* pieces about her childhood, and *The Pattern of Perfection* is a collection of her short stories. In 1962 she published a volume of her lectures and essays entitled *The Realities of Fiction*. Also the editor of *New England Discovery*, she is at present writing short fiction.

John Frederick Nims, poet, teaches at the University of Illinois and has taught courses at Harvard in the writing of poetry and in the lyric. His books of poetry are *The Iron Pastoral*, *A Fountain in Kentucky*, and *Knowledge of the Evening*. He has translated Euripides' *Andromache*, the *Poems of St. John of the Cross*, and has completed an edition of Golding's translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Mr. Nims has written for such magazines as *Accent*, *Sewanee Review*, *Botteghe Oscure*, *Poetry*, and the *Saturday Review*.



Robert Pack, poet, is Assistant Professor of English at Middlebury College. A former Fulbright Fellow, he has published four volumes of poetry: *The Irony of Joy*, *A Stranger's Privilege*, *Guarded by Women*, and *Selected Poems*. He is the author of three narrative poems for children and a critical study, *Wallace Stevens: An Approach to His Poetry and Thought*. He is co-editor of *New Poets of England and America*. His poems and essays have appeared in more than thirty magazines and anthologies.



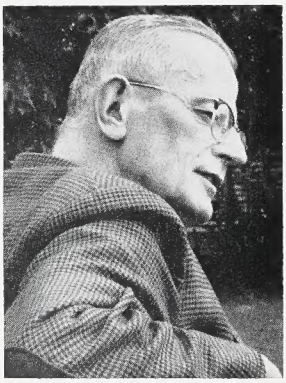
Henry Rago, poet, is the editor of *Poetry*. His books of poetry include *A Sky of Late Summer*, *The Travelers*, and *Conoscenza della Luce*. He has published verse, criticism, and translations in many magazines. He has recorded his poems for the Library of Congress and for the Lamont Poetry Library at Harvard. A member of the National Poetry Council, he has also been a judge for the National Book Awards. He has held a grant awarded by the Rockefeller Foundation. A Fellow of the School of Letters at Indiana University, he has taught at the University of Chicago and at Saint Xavier College for Women.



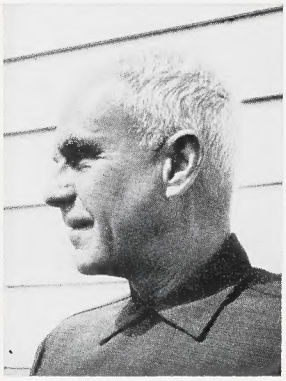


William Sloane, novelist and editor, is the author of *To Walk the Night* and *The Edge of Running Water*, recently republished together as *The Rim of Morning*. He is editor of *Space, Space, Space* and *Stories for Tomorrow*. Formerly a vice president at Henry Holt and Company, editor at Funk and Wagnalls Company, and President of William Sloane Associates, he is Director of the Rutgers University Press. The senior member of the Conference Staff, he has been at Bread Loaf since 1944.

SPECIAL LECTURERS



Dudley Fitts, poet and critic, teaches at Andover, and is the Editor of the Yale Series of Younger Poets. His books include *Poems 1929-36, Two Poems, Poems from the Greek Anthology* and *The Poetic Nuance*. He is the editor of *Antología de la poesía americana contemporánea* and *Greek Plays in Modern Translation*. His translations include Sophocles' *King Oedipus* and Aristophanes' *Lysistrata, Frogs, Birds*, and *Ladies' Day*. Mr. Fitts is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.



Theodore Morrison, novelist and poet, is Professor of English at Harvard University and for twenty-three years was Director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. His volumes of poems include *The Devious Way* and *The Dream of Alcestis*. He is the editor and translator of the *Portable Chaucer*. His novels are *The Stones of the House, To Make a World*, and *The Whole Creation*.



Chard Powers Smith, nonfiction writer, novelist, and poet, is the author of *Where the Light Falls*, a book about Edwin Arlington Robinson. He also has published five books of poetry and four novels, one of them a Civil War novel entitled *Artillery of Time*. Two other books have been about New England: *The Housatonic* and *Yankees and God*. In addition he has published books about poetry and poets.



William Hazlett Upson, short story writer, has, with his wife, Marjory, attended every Bread Loaf Writers' Conference since the first one in 1926. Mr. Upson, who has written books, short stories and plays, is best known for his Alexander Botts–Earthworm Tractor stories in the old *Saturday Evening Post*. Some of these stories, which number over one hundred, have been collected as *The Best of Botts*.

ADMINISTRATION



Edward A. Martin, Assistant Director of the Conference, is Assistant Professor of English at Middlebury College. He has taught at Hunter College. He has written articles for *The South Atlantic Quarterly*, *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, and the *Walt Whitman Review*.



John Ciardi, Director of the Conference, poet, critic and translator, is Poetry Editor of the *Saturday Review* and a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. A collection of his *Saturday Review* articles has been published as *Dialogue with an Audience.* He is the editor of *Mid-Century Poets* and *How Does a Poem Mean?* and the translator of Dante's *Inferno* and *Purgatorio.* His volumes of poetry include *As If, I Marry You, 39 Poems, In the Stoneworks, In Fact,* and *Person to Person.* He has published seven volumes of children's verse, among them: *The Reason for the Pelican; I Met a Man; The Man Who Sang the Sillies; You Read to Me, I'll Read to You; John J. Plenty and Fiddler Dan;* and *You Know Who.*



The History of Bread Loaf

Bread Loaf Inn was opened as a hotel in the 1860's by Joseph Battell, who bred Morgan horses, kept the Morgan stallion register, and believed in the preservation of forests. He acquired over thirty thousand acres of forest lands and left this property, with the Inn, to Middlebury College in 1915. Most of the forest is now national forest; the Inn is no longer a public hotel, but the living quarters of two of the Middlebury College Summer Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English in the early summer and the Writers' Conference during the last two weeks of August. Modern improvements and the addition of several new buildings have enhanced the charm and conveniences of the old original Inn and the surrounding cottages.

The Conference, the first of its kind in the country, began in 1926 under the direction of John Farrar, then editor of the *Bookman,* who was succeeded in 1929 by Robert M. Gay. Theodore Morrison became Director in 1932, and under his leadership the Conference gained much of the prestige that it commands today. In 1955 John Ciardi took over as Director. A major force in creating and sustaining Bread Loaf was Robert Frost, who was with the Conference until his death in 1963.





Life at Bread Loaf

Schedules of Lectures There are three morning sessions and two afternoon sessions every weekday during the Conference. For the first week these hourly sessions consist of lectures by the various staff members. A typical day's schedule might read: 9:00 a.m., The Novel; 10:15 a.m., The Short Story; 11:30 a.m., Nonfiction; 2:00 p.m., Poetry; 3:15 p.m., Juvenile Writing. In these lectures the staff members set forth the premises, principles, and techniques of the craft of writing as seen and practiced by them.

The same sort of schedule applies for the second week, but the sessions then become workshops rather than lectures and are primarily devoted to criticism, in which the whole group participates, of manuscripts submitted by Contributors.

There are, additionally, evening lectures every night of the Conference, Sundays included. In these evening talks staff members and guest lecturers speak on whatever is closest to them as human beings who write. During the second week each Contributor receives a private conference of about an hour with the staff member who has evaluated his manuscript.

No two lectures are scheduled for the same time. It is thus theoretically possible for a resolute Conference member to attend more than sixty lectures and discussions, but no one at Bread Loaf recommends such a marathon. A member is probably wiser to take in all the lectures and workshops in his own category and to sample the others while allowing himself an occasional break for coffee and talk at The Barn, or a stroll through the Vermont countryside, or a swim in the pool—or one of the many other recreations that a unique mountain setting makes possible.

Accommodations No rooms will be ready for occupancy until Wednesday morning, August 18.

The number of applications for Bread Loaf will exceed the housing facilities. When the last room has been assigned, no further applications can be considered. Those who seriously intend to come to Bread Loaf, and above all, those who want special room assignments, would be well advised to apply as soon as possible. Anyone making application should be prepared to accept a double room as the single rooms are all chosen quite early. It is assumed that members will live on campus. The Secretary will make every effort to assure a satisfactory assignment.



Bread Loaf Inn

A doctor and a nurse will be in attendance, and the well-equipped Porter Hospital at Middlebury is within easy reach.

Meals Meals are served at stated hours in the dining room of the Inn, which is operated and staffed by Middlebury College under the supervision of an expert and trained dietitian. No individual provision can be made in the dining hall for persons who require special diets.

Snack Bar Late breakfasts and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge. The snack bar offers short-order cooking as well as ice cream, sandwiches, hot and cold drinks.



At the Johnson Pool

Recreation For those who enjoy outdoor life, the Conference is ideally located at the edge of Battell Forest, 1500 feet above sea level. A junction with the Long Trail—"a footpath in the wilderness"—which winds along the summits of the Green Mountains and extends from southern Vermont to the Canadian border, is a short hike from Bread Loaf.

Tennis courts and croquet courts are available. There is also a golf course in Middlebury. Saddle horses are usually procurable at reasonable rates. Bathing beaches at Lake Dunmore, one of the most attractive of Vermont lakes, are twelve miles from the Conference. There is also swimming in the mountain streams at or immediately about Bread Loaf and in the Johnson Pool on campus.

Transportation The Bread Loaf campus is situated in the Green Mountains eleven miles from Middlebury, which is located on U.S. Route 7, half way between Burlington and Rutland, Vermont.

Members not arriving by car should come via the New York Central to Albany, N.Y.; or via the Vermont Central to Essex Junction (Burlington), Vermont, and make bus connections on the Vermont Transit Lines to Middlebury. There is no railroad passenger service direct to Middlebury. Baggage can be sent by railway express.

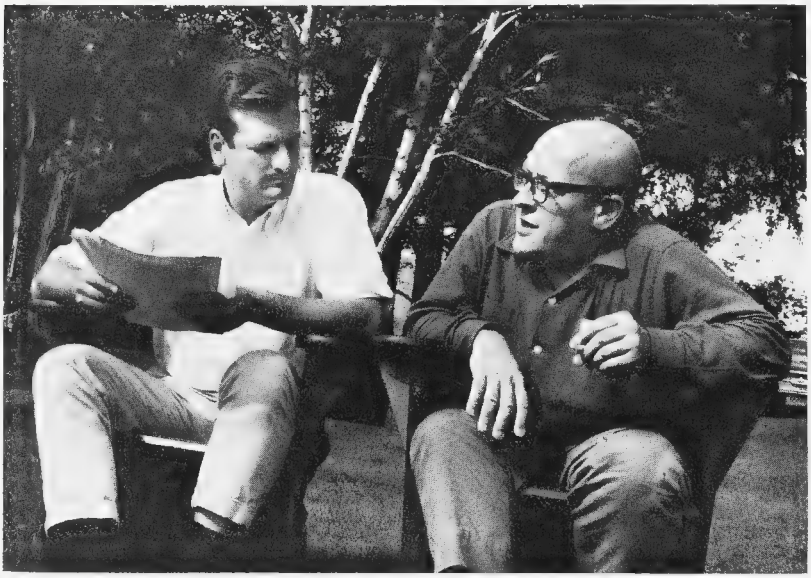
There are planes to Burlington from Boston via Northeast Airlines, and from New York via Mohawk Airlines.

There is bus service to Middlebury from Montreal, Boston, and New York City on the Greyhound and Vermont Transit Lines. Bus and plane schedules will be supplied upon request.

The Conference taxi meets all busses in Middlebury on August 18.

Classes of Membership

Contributors Those who wish to bring manuscripts to Bread Loaf for criticism by a staff member should apply for admission as Contributors. Contributors are asked to submit, at the time of application, examples of the kind of writing for which they will later expect criticism at Bread



Brock Brower Confers with Contributor Joe Luft



THE STAFF, 1964

REAR: (left to right) *William Sloane, Howard Nemerov, Dan Wakefield, Brock Brower, Robert Pack, Paul Cubeta, William Raney.*
FRONT: *John Ciardi, Eunice Blake, Nancy Hale, Shirley Jackson, David McCord.*

Loaf. In general it is expected that Contributors will submit manuscripts in only *one* field. Work in progress or completed manuscripts may be presented for criticism. The Conference is unable to accept manuscripts of plays or television scripts. The Director reserves the right to limit the amount of material submitted by any Contributor.

Auditors Those who do not wish to submit manuscripts should apply for admission as Auditors. Auditors may attend all lectures and participate in all open discussions. They may not submit manuscripts for staff criticism; otherwise their privileges are in no way different from those of Contributors.

Admission

Both Contributors and Auditors are subject to selection. The basis of admission for Contributors will be the examples of their work they submit with their applications. First choice will be given to those who, in the judgment of a preliminary reader, show professional promise. But inexperienced or beginning writers will be admitted if the preliminary reader considers that they are likely to profit by the criticism of the staff. The basis of admission for Auditors will be any evidence the applicant offers of serious literary interest, such as published work or active concern with writing or teaching.

Application Procedure 1. Write for an application blank to the Bread Loaf Secretary, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.

2. Return the filled-out application to Edward A. Martin, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

3. If you desire admission as a Contributor, forward to Mr. Martin examples of your published or unpublished work *at the same time that you return your application blank*. As much material may be submitted as you feel is necessary to represent fairly the range and quality of your work.

All manuscripts must be clearly typewritten and will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and full postage or clear directions for return by express collect. A full and clear address should be written on all manuscripts as well as on all letters. Some time may pass before manuscripts can be returned, and it will therefore be an advantage to keep copies. The Conference assumes no responsibility

for manuscripts lost in the mails or otherwise, but all possible care will be taken to prevent such loss.

4. If you desire admission as an Auditor, return your application, without manuscript, to Mr. Martin.

Applications are accepted only from people who intend to be present for the whole session. No reduction of rates is offered for part-time attendance.

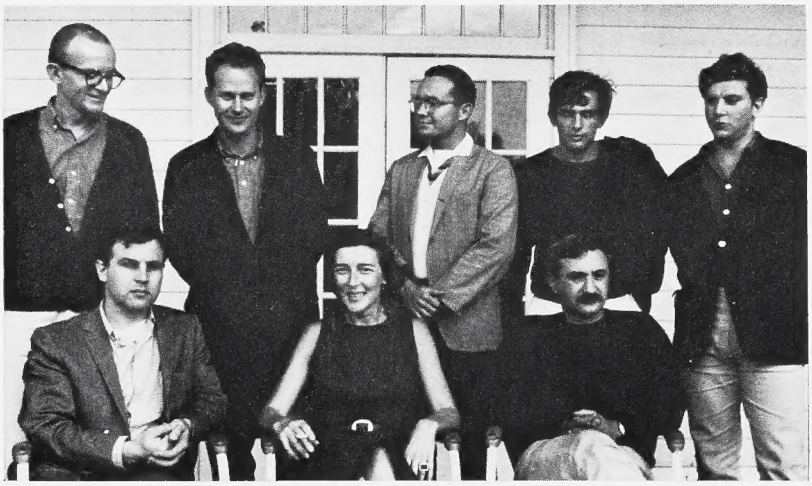
The restrictions of space at Bread Loaf, both in classrooms and living-quarters, make it impossible to accommodate friends or relatives of members, unless they too are regularly enrolled members.

Contributors should bring manuscripts in their hand luggage so that they may be submitted to the Director on registration day. No manuscripts can be accepted after the second day of the Conference.

Waiters A few positions are open for those desiring to earn most of their expenses by waiting on table. The compensation for Contributors is board, room, and partial tuition; for Auditors, board, room, and tuition. Application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Bread Loaf Secretary.



An Evening at the Barn



THE FELLOWS AND SCHOLARS, 1964

REAR: (left to right) *Russell Mead, Romulus Linney, Elling Eide, Jerome Charyn, Mark Mirsky.* FRONT: *Burton Hersh, Mary Durant, John Bleibtreu.* (Not present) *David Ray.*

Fees The administration reserves the right to make any changes without notice in courses, staff, living arrangements, etc. The all-inclusive fees for tuition, board, and room are as follows:

	Contributors	*Auditors*
Tuition	$125	$ 95
Board	$ 55	$ 55
Room	$ 30–$65	$ 30–$65
	$210—$245	$180—$215

The tuition fee includes a fee for an accident insurance policy with limited coverage. A nonrefundable registration fee of $25 will be called for by the Bread Loaf Secretary at the time the applicant is notified that he has been accepted for membership. Rooms will be assigned only to those whose applications have been accepted and who have paid the registration fee. This fee will be credited against the applicant's total charges. *Please make all checks payable to Middlebury College.*

Fellowships and Scholarships

Fellowships and Scholarships to the Writers' Conference have been made available by friends and by the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Endowment Fund. These grants pay all regular charges at Bread

Loaf, but not traveling expenses. A committee of the Conference staff grants the awards guided by the following policies:

1. Personal applications are not accepted. Undergraduates are eligible for Scholarships but not for Fellowships.
2. To be considered for either a Fellowship or a Scholarship, a candidate must be nominated by a magazine editor, publisher, literary agent, well-known writer, or college teacher. Nomination may be made informally in a letter to Mr. Martin.
3. Candidates for Fellowships are assumed, except in extraordinary cases, to have published a book or to have had a book-length manuscript accepted for publication.
4. Scholarships are awarded to encourage young talent that has not yet attained the distinction necessary to merit a Bread Loaf Fellowship. Candidates for Scholarships must show genuine literary potential but need not have published.
5. Those not awarded Fellowships are considered for Scholarships.
6. All nominations must be in the Assistant Director's hands by April 15. Supporting manuscripts or published work must reach him by May 1.

THE ROBERT FROST FELLOWSHIP IN POETRY

This annual Fellowship in Poetry is sponsored by Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., original publishers of Mr. Frost's poetry. The Fellowship covers full tuition, room, and board, and is awarded to a poet of genuine promise.

THE BERNARD DE VOTO FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

Sponsored this year by the Houghton Mifflin Company in memory of the late Bernard DeVoto, long a member of the Conference staff, the Fellowship will be offered to a writer of promise in the field of fiction or nonfiction.

THE FUNK AND WAGNALLS FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

This Fellowship, awarded annually by Funk and Wagnalls Company, provides full tuition, board, and room for an outstanding writer in nonfiction.

THE FLETCHER PRATT FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

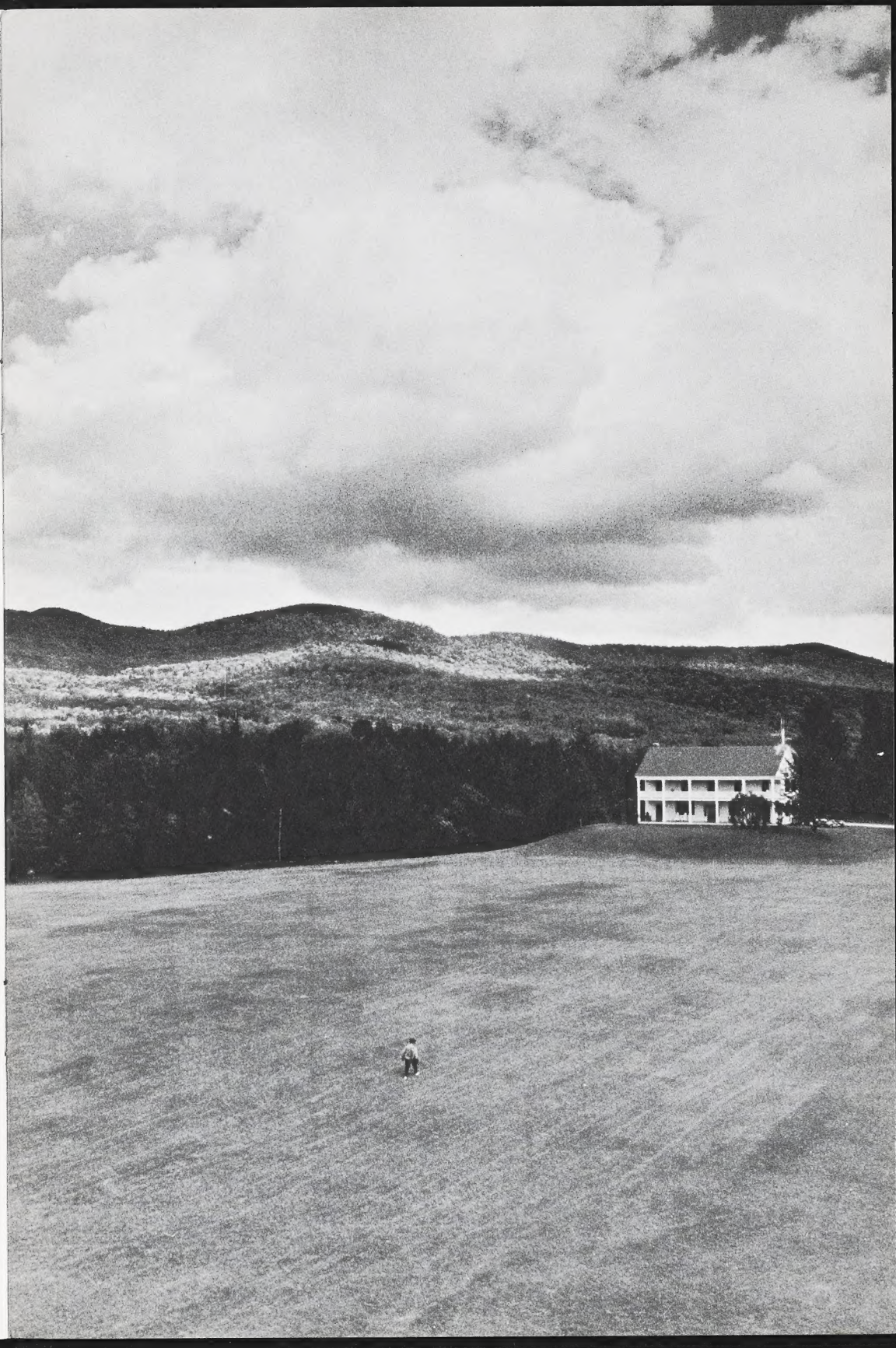
Awarded by W. W. Norton and Company, Curtis Brown, Ltd., and friends of the late Fletcher Pratt, in memory of his long service and shaping influence at Bread Loaf, this Fellowship will pay all Conference expenses to a writer of fiction or nonfiction.

THE BREAD LOAF FELLOWSHIP IN JUVENILE LITERATURE

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference is pleased to announce the continuation for a ninth year of a Fellowship in juvenile literature. The Fellowship will provide full tuition, board, and room for an outstanding young writer of juvenile literature.

THE WILLIAM RANEY FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

This memorial Fellowship is made possible through the generosity of William Raney's many friends and colleagues. The Fellowship commemorates William Raney's devotion and service to the ideals of Bread Loaf. It will be awarded in 1965 for the first time and will pay all Conference expenses to a writer of fiction or nonfiction.




BREAD LOAF
WRITERS' CONFERENCE
August 18—September 1, 1965
Fortieth Annual Session